



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**December 14, 2006
For immediate release**

1. Commercial manure applicators should take training January 5

**COMMERCIAL MANURE APPLICATORS SHOULD TAKE
TRAINING JANUARY 5**

MEDIA CONTACT: Jeff Prier at (712) 262-4177.

DES MOINES – Approximately 1,300 commercial manure applicators should plan to attend an annual training session on Jan. 5.

The three-hour session will fulfill the requirements to renew certificates or to become certified as a commercial manure applicator by the DNR.

The training is offered by live satellite downlink from Iowa State University Extension from 9 a.m. to noon in more than 75 local Extension offices.

Those who plan to attend should register with their local office and arrive before 9 a.m. to receive credit for the training. The DNR and Extension will cover applicator rules, recordkeeping requirements, soil compaction issues, fuel savings and manure spill response plans.

“This is a good opportunity for training, because applicators can ask questions of the trainers and interact with each other,” said Jeff Prier who coordinates the training program for the DNR.

“Those who miss this session must make an appointment at their local Extension office to watch a video prior to the March 1 expiration date on all certificates,” he added. “Or, they have the option of taking a test at a regional DNR field office.

“The important thing to remember is that you cannot apply manure without a valid certificate,” he added.

A list of participating Extension offices is available on the Extension Web site at <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/certification/07commmacbrochure.pdf>.

The training session is free, but those applicators who want to be certified must pay a certification fee and an education fee. They must also work for a licensed commercial manure application service.

Prier encourages applicators to attend the Jan. 5 training because videotapes may not be available until late January or early February. A late fee is charged for all currently certified applicators who renew their certificate after the March 1 deadline.

More information on requirements for applicators can be found on the DNR Web site at [/www.iowadnr.com/afo/appcert.html](http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/appcert.html).